

Applicant indicates that there is no teaching or suggestion to combine the above references. More specifically, the Bush reference appears to be unrelated to a driveshaft capable of transmitting torque of the loads necessary in the present invention. The Bush reference is directly related to a rotor shaft for use with electric generators or dynamo electric motors. Therefore, one skilled in the art would not necessarily combine the above references.

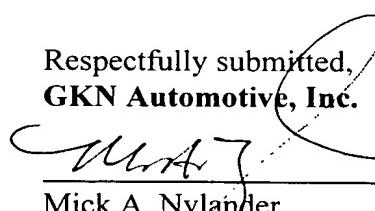
Even if the above references were so combined, they do not reach the claimed invention. The claimed invention comprises a splined connection assembly for use with a universal joint, said splined connection comprising an externally splined shaft; a housing having a mating internally splined bore; and a plurality of radially compressible, elongate members having a C-shaped cross-section, each elongate member received within a corresponding longitudinally extending opening disposed in said housing and engaging the externally splined shaft and internally splined bore for providing a radial force for compensating clearance deviations between said externally splined shaft and internally splined bore. According to the claimed invention, the externally splined shaft is integrally connected to a universal joint. The housing includes a mating internally splined bore which is not necessarily connection to a different portion of the universal joint. Referring to the Ishibashi patent, the splined connection is made between a portion of the universal joint yoke and an opposing portion of an opposite universal joint. For the reasons stated above Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection to Claims 1 and 2 be withdrawn.

**Double Patenting Rejection**

Applicant submits herewith an executed Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the current double patenting rejection.

Applicant believes the application is now in form for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney, Mick A. Nylander, at (248) 377-1290, if any unresolved matters remain.

Respectfully submitted,  
**GKN Automotive, Inc.**

  
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